

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR WISCONSIN BAY AREA COUNTIES

February 2002



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

Unadjusted Unemployment Rates Follow Seasonal and Economic Patterns During January

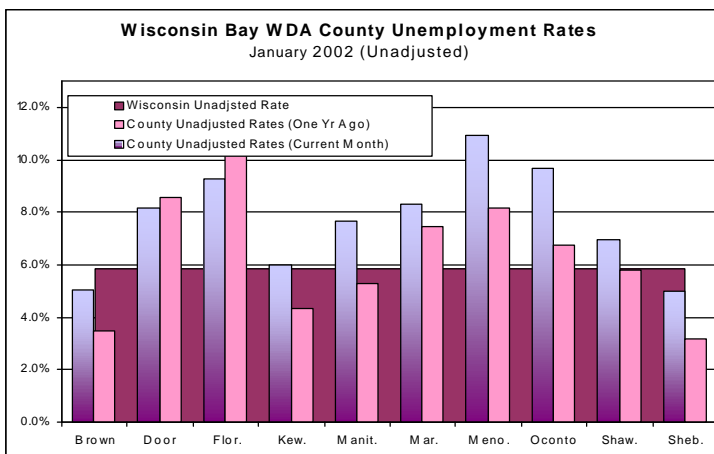
Only one of the area's ten counties unemployment rate declined in January. This is relatively typical for a December to January pattern in the Wisconsin Bay Area. However seven of the ten counties had increases in their rate of over one percent from one year ago. This is a better indicator of the change in the area's economy over the last year. Door and Florence Counties were the only counties in the region to have decreases in their unemployment rate over the last twelve months. Two counties were near double digits during the month. These were Menominee County at 11.0 percent, down 0.2 of a percentage point from December, and Oconto County at 9.7 percent, up 1.8 of a percentage point from December.

During the month the unemployment rate for the region was rose to 6.2 percent from 4.8 percent in January. The area remained above Wisconsin's unadjusted rate of 5.8 percent which was an increase from December's level of 4.4 percent. Eight of the area's counties had rates above the State of Wisconsin's unadjusted rate.

The number of unemployed in the Bay Area increased by over 4,800 from December. Again this is a combination of seasonal patterns for the area accentuated by the slow economy. Although the number of unemployed increased during the month, so did the number of employed as well as the number of workers available in the labor force. Employment in the region was up by nearly 1,500 to 320,664, however this was offset by an increase of 6300 additional workers entering the labor force bring the number of worker up to 341,700.

Employment and labor force levels were above last years levels in the region, which indicates that while the economy

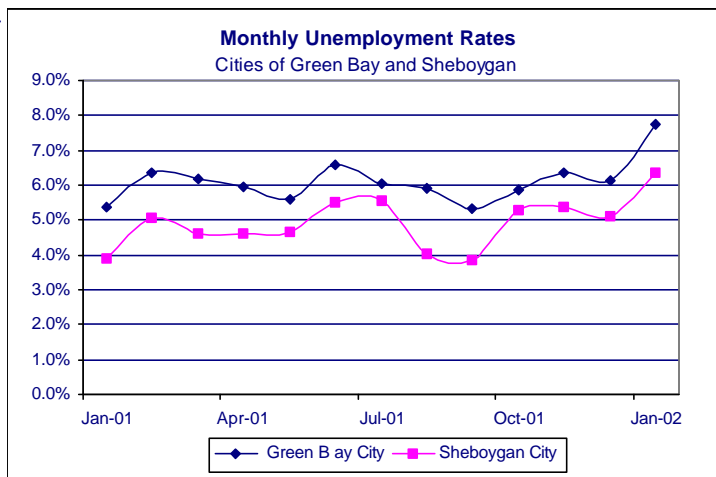
has slowed, there is still growth occurring, although this growth has not been equal throughout the area. During the last twelve months the labor force has increased 13,400, while employment only rose by 7,200. Nearly half of the employment growth has occurred in the Green Bay MSA which increased by 3,400.



Typically, January has a high number of unemployment claims carrying over from the seasonal layoffs that occur during late December. These claims begin to decline throughout the early part of the year. January and February are the peak months for unemployment in the Bay Area with declining claims and unemployment rates beginning in March. This will most likely occur this year, as we

despite the economy, still followed normal seasonal patterns in the area, although unemployment have been well above that of the last eight years.

Economic improvement is still expected this spring, but improvement in the employment picture will probably be slower to materialize than the nationwide economy due in part to the high percent of manufacturing employment found in the region. The percent of workers involved in manufacturing in the Bay Area is nearly 50% higher than the national average, and is quite close to the state average of just over 20 percent, which is second highest in the nation, Indiana is the highest. Over the last twelve months Wisconsin's manufacturing employment has lost 33,400 jobs. This is a decline of 5.6 percent. In the Bay Area, manufacturing lost 3,300 jobs. Currently there are 83,300 workers in the Bay area working in manufacturing.



(Continued on page 2)

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased in both of the metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) in the Wisconsin Bay Area. The rate in the Green Bay MSA was 4.5 percent, up 0.2 of a percentage point. The rate for

Sheboygan was 4.7 percent, up 0.4 of a percentage point. The rate for the U. S. declined 0.2 of a percentage point to 5.6 per-

cent. The rate in Wisconsin increased 0.4 of a percentage point to 5.1 percent.

For additional labor market statistics contact our website at <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>.

Wisconsin Bay Workforce Development Area												
January 2002	Brown	Door	Florn.	Kewan.	Mantwc.	Marntt.	Menom	Oconto	Shawn.	Sheboy.	Region	Wisconsin
Civilian Labor Force*	142,400	15,000	1,700	10,600	46,500	22,200	2,300	17,300	20,400	63,500	341,700	3,031,900
Employed	135,200	13,800	1,600	9,900	42,900	20,300	2,000	15,600	18,900	60,300	320,700	2,855,200
Unemployed	7,200	1,200	200	600	3,600	1,800	300	1,700	1,400	3,200	21,100	176,600
Unemployment rate(%)	5.0%	8.2%	9.2%	6.0%	7.6%	8.3%	11.0%	9.7%	7.0%	5.0%	6.2%	5.8%
Total, all industries**	145,300	12,100	1,100	6,600	37,600	19,700	2,000	10,000	12,300	61,000	307,800	2,759,200
Construction & Mining	8,100	800	0	500	1,200	400	0	400	400	2,100	14,100	108,100
Manufacturing	27,800	2,500	300	2,100	13,700	6,500	0	3,200	2,400	24,900	83,300	567,700
Transportation & Public Util.	10,600	200	0	400	2,200	900	0	400	500	1,700	16,900	131,500
Wholesale Trade	7,600	200	0	200	1,000	600	0	100	400	1,900	12,000	135,100
Retail Trade	26,000	2,700	300	1,000	5,900	3,400	100	1,700	2,400	9,100	52,600	490,700
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	10,700	700	0	300	1,000	600	0	200	400	2,000	15,900	150,400
Services	37,000	3,200	100	1,100	8,300	5,000	0	1,900	2,900	12,600	72,100	761,100
Government	17,600	1,700	300	1,000	4,400	2,300	1,800	2,000	2,900	6,600	40,900	414,600
Change from previous month												
Civilian Labor Force*	2,700	0	0	0	1,200	400	100	300	400	1,300	6,300	50,700
Employed	1,000	-300	-100	-200	300	100	100	0	100	600	1,500	6,200
Unemployed	1,700	300	100	200	1,000	400	0	300	300	700	4,800	44,600
Unemployment rate(%)	1.1%	1.7%	3.4%	1.9%	1.9%	1.5%	-0.3%	1.8%	1.3%	1.0%	1.3%	1.4%
Total, all industries**	-3,100	-600	-100	-300	-800	-500	0	-300	-300	-1,100	-7,000	-76,800
Construction & Mining	-200	-100	0	-100	-200	-100	0	-100	-100	-200	-1,000	-11,700
Manufacturing	-200	0	0	-100	-100	-100	0	0	0	-300	-800	-7,200
Transportation & Public Util.	-500	0	0	-100	0	-100	0	0	0	-100	-800	-2,500
Wholesale Trade	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100	-1,400
Retail Trade	-700	-200	0	0	-100	-100	0	-100	-100	-100	-1,400	-27,700
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-800
Services	-1,200	-200	0	0	-300	0	0	-100	0	-300	-2,200	-15,500
Government	-300	-100	0	-100	-100	-100	0	0	0	-200	-700	-9,900
Change from year ago												
Civilian Labor Force*	5,800	600	100	200	2,700	800	0	1,400	800	400	13,400	96,200
Employed	3,400	600	100	0	1,400	600	0	800	600	800	7,200	60,200
Unemployed	2,400	0	0	200	1,200	300	100	600	300	600	6,200	36,100
Unemployment rate(%)	1.6%	-0.4%	-1.0%	1.7%	2.4%	0.9%	2.8%	2.9%	1.2%	1.8%	1.6%	1.0%
Total, all industries**	400	200	100	-200	400	100	-100	300	0	-1,700	-500	-13,500
Construction & Mining	800	0	0	0	-100	0	0	0	0	-400	400	-2,200
Manufacturing	-1,600	-100	0	-100	100	-100	0	-100	-100	-1,300	-3,300	-33,400
Transportation & Public Util.	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	0	0	100	-600
Wholesale Trade	-100	0	0	0	-100	0	0	0	0	0	-200	-800
Retail Trade	400	100	0	0	200	0	0	100	0	0	800	-700
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	-300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	-200	2,600
Services	600	100	0	0	200	300	0	100	200	-200	1,200	9,400
Government	600	100	0	-100	-100	0	0	200	0	0	700	12,300

* Includes participants residing in area. ** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. NFWS data is benchmarked to 3/2001

Gearing up for summer recruitment--call your local Wisconsin Job Center or visit our website at: <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us> to access Wisconsin's own job site. Let students know your looking no matter where they are going to school!

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: WWW.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI

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